

KS  
Ke'elikolani,  
Auditorium

# E HO'OLĀHUI KŪPONO

To Form A More Perfect Union

11/6/93, Sat, 7<sup>15</sup>-  
5pm

A Puwale or Conference on Sovereignty Sponsored by the Council of Hawaiian Organizations

**Aloha i kekahi i kekahi, a greeting of deep respect and genuine regards,**

Almost two decades have elapsed since a humble cab driver, Louisa Rice touched the hearts of many Hawaiians after experiencing what she deeply felt was a sign, an omen and a call to remedy a wrong when she retrieved an unseathed copy of *Hawaii's Story* by Queen Liliuokalani, from a fire in her taxi trunk.

That incident along with a few other extraordinary events formed a prophetic beginning of a renewed effort that continues today in the search for *pono* or what is just. This search examines many opinions and ideas that range from complete secession and independence to various forms of governance under both state and federal jurisdictions.

It also presents conclusive evidence that there still beats in the hearts of Hawaii's people, a desire for a once honored and universally respected singular status long ignored for a century of time since the illegal overthrow of Hawaiian sovereignty.

On Saturday, November 6, 1993, the Council of Hawaiian Organizations sponsors **E Ho'olāhui Kūpono**, to form a more perfect union, a conference on sovereignty at the Kamehameha Schools.

It certainly is no understatement to say that there has been a tremendous amount of fingerpointing, blame and acrimony. COHO believes it is time to set aside *mana'o* or thoughts that hurt each other and look ahead toward building mutual cooperative efforts that involve all of Hawaii's people as Native Hawaiians seek a unique recognition and direct management of their resources to benefit their generations to come within the context of perpetuating cultural pride and values.

COHO has also played a historically significant role since the 1970's laying out a vision for economic and social self sufficiency that has included the founding of ALU LIKE, Inc., the establishment of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and numerous education, health and cultural initiatives.

We cordially invite citizens and leaders of the Hawaiian community and their counterparts in both the non-Hawaiian public and private sectors of our island state to join us in a day of finding out what is currently going on in the native community and how all of the sectors can play a role in helping to bring about win-win solutions that can ensure the prosperity of all of *Hawai'i nei*.

**What is sovereignty? What are native Hawaiians saying? Do they want all non Hawaiians to leave the state?**

Robert Gilbert Johnson of Chicago's John Marshall Law School will present various definitions of sovereignty and cite examples that are extant in Native America. He is familiar with Hawai'i's efforts and will be able to suggest future possibilities.

**Will Hawaiians make their own laws? How will they handle cases of confrontation with other legal systems? How will they enforce their laws?**

The Honorable Violet Lui-Frank, Judge in the Pascua-Yaqui Tribal Court in Tuscon, Arizona will present examples of native laws operating under federal jurisdiction. She has also served as Advisor to the Navaho Supreme Court and is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and the University of California Law School at Berkeley.

**Are Hawaiians going to form their own public school system? What are the costs involved in meeting the needs of every Hawaiian child?**

Lokelani Lindsey, Trustee of the Bishop Estate/Kamehameha Schools and a former District Superintendent of Maui's public schools will share her perspectives on maintaining educational programs for the children of Hawai'i.

**What are the current costs of running our city, county and state governments as they relate to native Hawaiians?**

Bank of Hawai'i's Chief Economist, David Ramsour, will present an undoubtedly eye opening understanding of the cost of running a government. He is a friend of the Hawaiian people having served on the Kamehameha Schools President's Advisory Council during the Darvill Administration for a number of years.

**Hawaiians lead in several negative indices of health in both the state and the nation. What will a Hawaiian Health system look like? Will it be able to maintain effective levels of services? What are the current costs? How will we be able to meet burgeoning demands?**

A. Hardy Spoehr, Executive Director of Papa Ola Lokahi has a good grasp on where we are today as he looks at the strategic plans of a federally funded organization as they relate to the total health needs of the Hawaiian people.

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To put it all together at the day's end summary, we are fortunate in having the opportunity to hear J.N. Musto, the Director of the University of Hawai'i Professional Assembly. Dr. Musto was cited as the Best Union Leader in Hawai'i, the result of a recent readership survey of the Honolulu Weekly. He is distinguished and highly effective in his work and his compassion for people includes the native Hawaiian community.

A registration form is attached Please select key members in your organization as possible conference participants. Your *kokua*, together, with the participation of all people, can lead toward building a better Hawai'i for everyone.

Registration \$35.00  
PO Box 27357  
Honolulu, HI 96827

Sincerely  
Gard Kealoha, COHO  
Conference Coordinator